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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/054,920	01/25/2002	Ki-Jung Kim	401450	5603

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WASHINGTON, DC 20005-3960

EXAMINER

PICKETT, JOHN G

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3728

6

DATE MAILED: 12/17/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/054,920

Applicant(s)

KIM ET AL.

Examiner

Gregory Pickett

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 September 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6, 7, 9-14, 16, 17 and 19-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 6, 7, 9, 16, 17, 19 and 21-24 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 10-14 and 20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 25 January 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.  
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_ 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. This Office Action acknowledges the applicant's Amendment A, presented as Paper No. 5. Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 9-14, 16, 17, and 19-24 are pending in the application.

2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

***Specification***

3. In light of the applicant's amendment, the objection to the specification is hereby withdrawn.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

4. In light of the applicant's amendment, the rejection of claims 6, 7, 16, and 17 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, is hereby withdrawn.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

5. In light of the applicant's amendment, the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) is hereby withdrawn.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

6. Claims 1-4, and 11-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iwamoto et al (US 5,950,836).

Regarding claims 1 and 11, Iwamoto et al discloses a packing apparatus with a plurality of PDP module packing units (Figure 2) with each unit having a support member (52), a PDP module (50), and a plurality of shock absorbing units (10, 24, 44). The packing apparatus of Iwamoto et al functions as claimed by the applicant.

The packing apparatus of Iwamoto et al does not expressly disclose coupling units threadedly engaging the PDP modules to the support member. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to fasten the PDP module to the support member with threaded coupling units in order to prevent the module from falling out of the support member during transport. The examiner notes that in Figure 2, item 52 appears to have holes in it specifically for this purpose, but the coupling units are not specifically mentioned by Iwamoto et al.

As to claims 2 and 12, the packaging apparatus of Iwamoto et al discloses a shock absorbing members (44) with slots (46).

As to claims 3 and 13, the packaging apparatus of Iwamoto et al discloses reinforcement members (10, 24).

As to claims 4 and 14, the packaging apparatus of Iwamoto et al discloses shock absorbing members (10, 24, 44) with first cushion (44) with slots (46) and second cushion (10, 24).

7. Claims 10 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iwamoto et al as applied to claims 1 and 11 above, and further in view of Ruin (US 4,478,331).

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The packaging apparatus of Iwamoto et al, as applied to claims 1 and 11 above, discloses the claimed invention except for the buffer members.

Ruin discloses a packaging apparatus with an electronic component (7) coupled to a support member (4) with a fixing member (13) and a buffer member (19). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the coupling units of Iwamoto et al with buffer members as taught by Ruin in order to reduce the potential for damaging the component when coupling it to the support member.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

8. Claims 6, 7, 9, 16, 17, 19, and 21-24 are allowed.

9. As allowable subject matter has been indicated, applicant's reply must either comply with all formal requirements or specifically traverse each requirement not complied with. See 37 CFR 1.111(b) and MPEP § 707.07(a).

***Response to Arguments***

10. Applicant's amendment has successfully overcome the Ruin reference when used alone.

11. Applicant's arguments filed September 30, 2003, with respect to the Iwamoto et al reference have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Based on the

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holes of Figure 2 and the fact that the panels of Iwamoto et al were stored vertically, the examiner asserts that some means for fastening the panel to the support must have been provided or the panel would fall from the support during transport. As threaded fasteners were a very common means for fastening, including threaded engagement with the article held, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to fasten the panels of Iwamoto et al to the support with threaded fasteners as claimed by the applicant. As mentioned before, the holes present in Figure 2 appear to suggest this solution.

### ***Conclusion***

**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).


A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gregory Pickett whose telephone number is 703-305-8321. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 9:30 AM - 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mickey Yu can be reached on 703-308-2672. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1148.

  
Gregory Pickett  
Examiner  
December 14, 2003

  
Mickey Yu  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
Group 3700